REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 7-25 and 42-50 are pending in the present application. Claims 4-6 and 26-41 have been canceled, Claim 50 has been added, and Claims 1, 7-10, 12, 14, 16, 21, 42, 44 and 46-49 have been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-3, 7-11, 13, 42, 43 and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Numata; and Claims 12, 14-25, 44 and 46-49 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, Claims 12, 14-25, 44 and 46-49 have been rewritten in independent form as appropriate.

Claims 1-3, 7-11, 13, 42, 43 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Numata. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites a feature that at least one of the items displayed by the displaying means is designated by the designating means. Independent Claim 7 includes similar features. The displaying means is achieved in the designation unit 402 as described in the specification from page 24, line 16 to page 25, line 23. Using the display of the items, an operator or user can easily designate desired items by using a keyboard or a pointing device. On the contrary, Numata do not teach or suggest a display means which displays the items extracted from the document data. Further, amended Claim 10 recites that the document classification system includes transforming function calculating means for calculating a representation transforming function used for projecting the document feature vector onto a space in which similarity between the document feature vectors is reflected with a

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dimensional number different from a dimensional document of the document feature vector. Independent Claim 42 includes similar features.

In <u>Numata</u>, the dimensional number of the vectors after transformation is fixed to a predetermined number equal to the total number of the keywords used for classification. This differs from the present invention in which the dimensional number k can be any number from 1 to a smaller one of the total number t of the keywords and the total number d of the documents to be classified ($1 \leq k \leq \min (t,d)$).

According to <u>Numata</u>, the vector is produced in accordance with the total number of keywords, and similarity therebetween is calculated so as to perform a classification process. Accordingly, the dimensional number of the vector space for calculating the similarity is large, which results in an increase in the calculation costs and time. On the other hand, according to the present invention, the keywords having similar meanings can be classified into the same category, and the keywords such as "car" and "automobile" may be calculated as the same dimensional number. Thus, the dimensional number of the vectors after transformation can be smaller than the dimensional number of <u>Numata</u> which is fixed to the number of keywords.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent Claims 1, 7, 10 and 42 and each of the claims depending therefrom are also allowable.
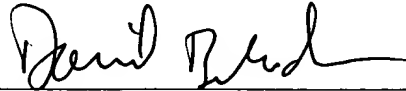
In addition, new Claim 50 has been added to set forth the invention and Applicants' submit the new claim is supported by the originally filed specification. It is respectfully submitted <u>Numata</u> also does not teach or suggest the features recited in the new independent Claim 50.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment,

the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable

action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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